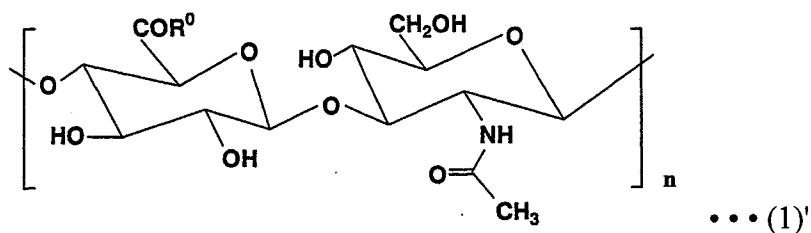


**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**

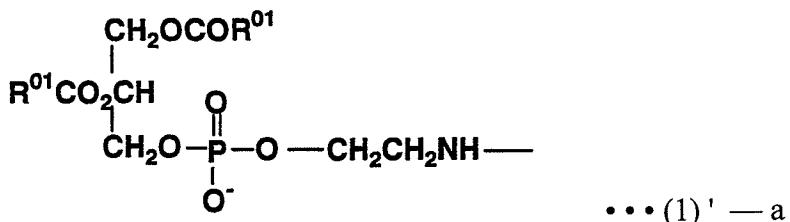
**This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:**

**LISTING OF CLAIMS:**

1. (previously presented): A hyaluronic acid compound represented by the following formula (1)':



wherein R<sup>0</sup> is a group represented by the following formula (1)'-a, -OH or -ONa,



wherein R<sup>01</sup> is an alkenyl group having 10 to 28 carbon atoms, and n is an integer of 50 to 50,000, with the proviso that 1 to 100 % of R<sup>0</sup> is the group represented by the above formula (1)'-a.

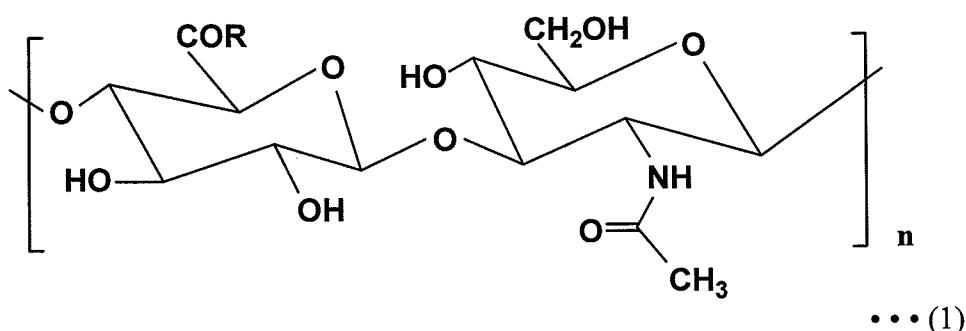
2. (original): The hyaluronic acid compound according to claim 1, wherein n is 300 to 30,000.

3. (previously presented): The hyaluronic acid compound according to claim 1, wherein two R<sup>01</sup>CO-'s in the formula (1)'-a are both oleoyl groups.

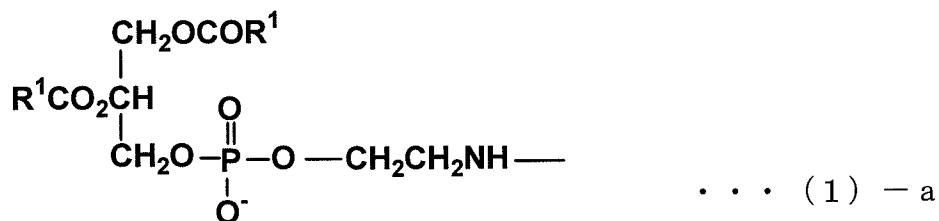
4. (original): A hydrogel of the hyaluronic acid compound of any one of claims 1 to 3.

5. (original): A molded form of the hyaluronic acid compound of any one of claims 1 to 3.

6. (previously presented): A joint treating material comprising a hyaluronic acid compound represented by the following formula (1):



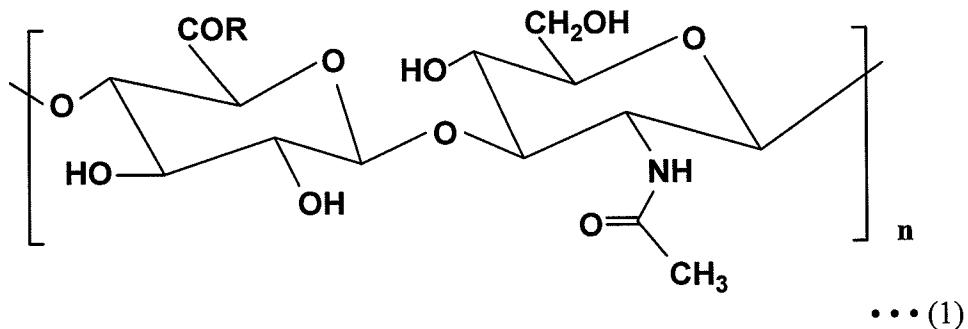
wherein R is a group represented by the following formula (1)-a, -OH or -ONa,



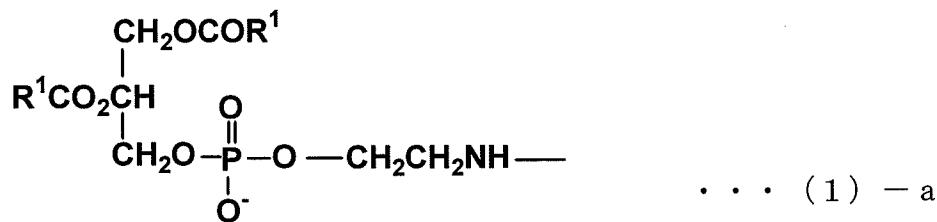
wherein R<sup>1</sup> is an alkyl group or alkenyl group having 10 to 28 carbon atoms,  
and n is an integer of 50 to 50,000, with the proviso that 1 to 100 % of R is the group  
represented by the above formula (1)-a.

7. (previously presented): The joint treating material according to claim 6, wherein  
R<sup>1</sup> is an alkyl group or alkenyl group having 14 to 20 carbon atoms and n is an integer of 1,000  
to 10,000.

8. (previously presented): A method of using a hyaluronic acid compound comprising inserting a joint treating material prepared from a hyaluronic acid compound represented by the following formula (1):



wherein R is a group represented by the following formula (1)-a, -OH or -ONa,



wherein R<sup>1</sup> is an alkyl group or alkenyl group having 10 to 28 carbon atoms,  
and n is an integer of 50 to 50,000, with the proviso that 1 to 100 % of R is the group represented  
by the above formula (1)-a,

into the joint of a patient.

9. (new): The molded form of claim 5, wherein the molded form is a sponge,  
nonwoven cloth or film.